



*Billing Code 3410-TX

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

March 6, 2018

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments are requested regarding (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 – 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, D.C. 20250-7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Office of Procurement and Property Management

TITLE: Guidelines for Designating Biobased Products for Federal Procurement

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0503-0011

SUMMARY OF COLLECTION: Section 9002 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act (FSRIA) of 2002, as amended by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act (FCEA) of 2008, and the Agricultural Act of 2014 [7 U.S.C. 8102] provides for a preferred procurement program under which Federal agencies are required to purchase biobased products, with certain exceptions. Product categories (which are generic groupings of products) are designated by rulemaking for preferred procurement. To qualify product categories for procurement under this program, the statute requires that the Secretary of Agriculture consider information on the availability of biobased products, the economic and technological feasibility of using such products and the costs of using such products. In addition, the Secretary is required to provide information on designated product categories to Federal agencies about the availability, price, performance, and environmental and public health benefits of such product categories, and where appropriate shall recommend the level of biobased material to be contained in the procured product.

NEED AND USE OF THE INFORMATION: The Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM) and its contractors will interact with manufacturers and vendors to gather such information and material for testing, as may be required for designation of products categories for preferred procurement by Federal agencies. The information collected will continue to be gathered using a variety of methods, including face to face visits with a

manufacturer or vendor, submission by manufacturers and vendors of information electronically to OPPM, and survey instruments filled out by manufacturers and vendors and submitted to OPPM.

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS: Business or other for-profit

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 220

FREQUENCY OF RESPONSES: Reporting: Other (once)

TOTAL BURDEN HOURS: 8,800

Ruth Brown,
Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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